

164,1001.01

REMARKS:

After entry of this response, claims 1 to 5, 7, 8, 12 to 18, 20, 21, 25 to 31, 33, 34, 38 and 39 will be pending. Claims 1, 12 to 14, 25 to 27, 38 and 39 have been amended, and claims 6, 9 to 11, 19, 22 to 24, 32, and 35 to 37 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 14 and 27 are the independent claims. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Section 112 Rejections

Claims 1, 14 and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2, for alleged indefiniteness. In particular, the claims were rejected for use of the terms "could be" and "in better form." These terms have been removed from the claims. Accordingly, withdrawal is respectfully requested of the § 112 rejections.

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Allowable Subject Matter

The Office Action indicated that claims 10, 11, 23, 34, 36 and 37 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of their base claims and any intervening claims.

Applicant respectfully notes that the listing of claim 34, which recites a limitation along the lines of those recited by rejected claims 8 and 21 and which was also rejected in the Office Action, appears to be a typographical error. Applicant has proceeded on the basis that the

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Office Action intended to list claim 24, which recites limitations along the lines of those recited by claims 11 and 37 and which was not rejected in the Office Action.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to substantially recite all of the limitations of claims 10 and 11 as well as the limitation of intervening claim 9. In this regard, claims 10 and 11 only differed in their recitation of whether the first and second access points were in a single one or in different ones of the sectors. Amended claim 1 recites a merged form of these limitations in the alternative (i.e., using "or").

Claims 14 and 27 have been amended similarly. Conforming amendments and cancellations have also been made to various ones of the dependent claims.

In view of these changes, allowance is respectfully requested of independent claims 1, 14 and 27. Allowance of all remaining claims, which now depend from one of claims 1, 14 and 27, also is respectfully requested.

Section 103 Rejections

Claims 1 to 6, 9, 12, 13, 15 to 19, 22, 25, 26, 28 to 32, 38 and 39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,850,593 (Uratani). Claims 7 to 9, 14, 20, 21, 27, and 33 to 35 were rejected under § 103(a) over Uratani in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,049,533 (Norman). In view of the amendments of claims 1, 14 and 27 to recite subject matter that the Office Action indicated was allowable, these rejections are now believed to be moot.

Withdrawal is therefore respectfully requested of the rejections.

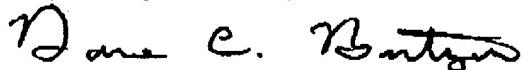
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Closing

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Entry of the amendments in this Response and allowance of the application is therefore respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney can be reached at (614) 486-3585. All correspondence should continue to be directed to the address indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



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